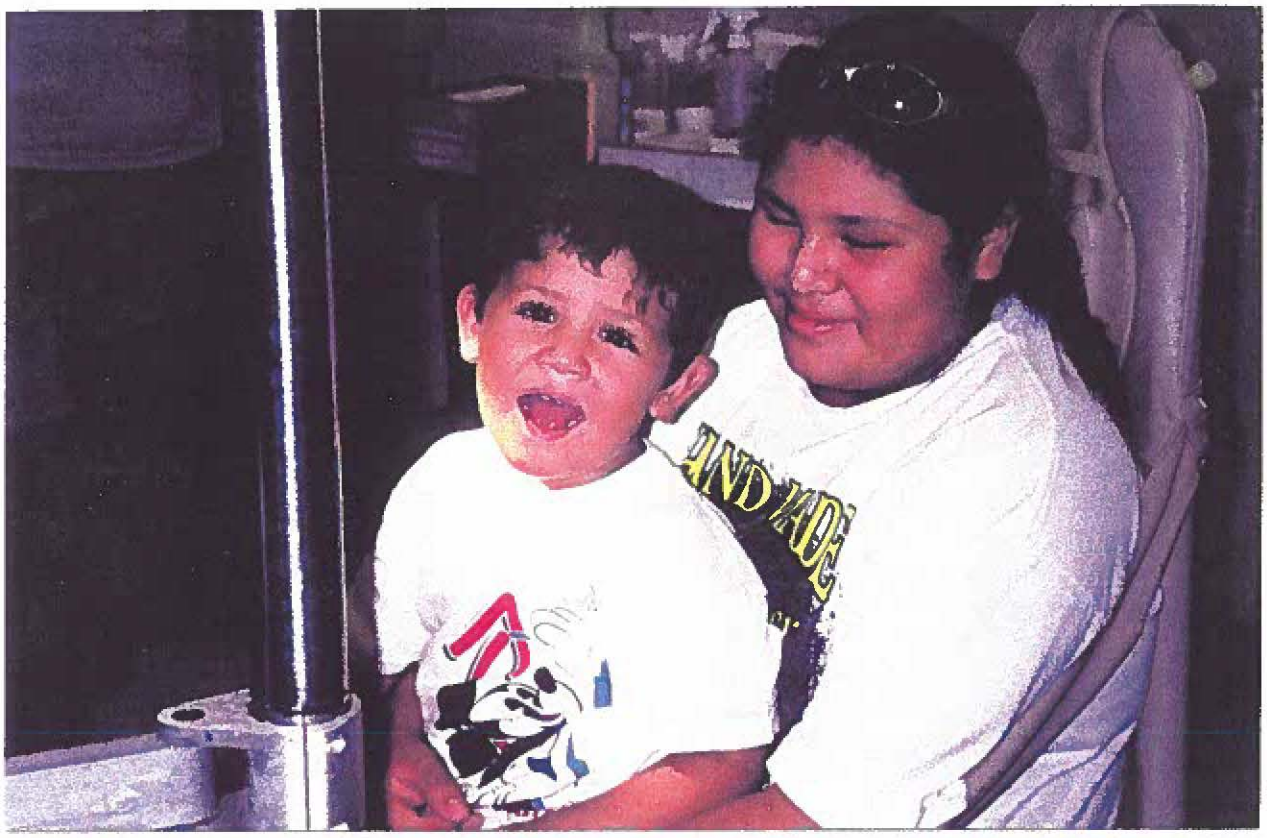
GATOR AID

Vol. 1, Issue 4 "The News of the 4th Dental Battalion" 30 Sep 98

4TH DENTAL BATTALION ADVENTURES TO LONE STAR 98!



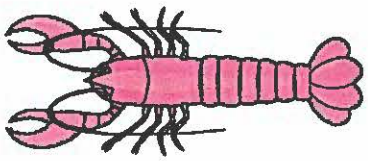
4th Dental Battalion goes to the Lone Star State of Texas to provide much needed humanitarian dental assistance to the people of Rio Bravo, Larga Vista, and El Cenizo. Pictures tell a thousand stories. The mother and child in the picture above are very pleased to be waiting for the expert dental care they often cannot afford. For more about Lone Star 98 go to page 10.

IN THIS ISSUE OF THE "GATOR":

* FORMER COMMANDING OFFICER MAURICE B. HILL SELECTED FOR REAR ADMIRAL!!!
See page 5
* LONESTAR, CAX 7 & 8, AOT, FIREX ALL HUGE SUCCESSES!!!
* MORE COLOR PICTURES, BETTER GRAPHICS.

The **"Gator Aid"** is the **quarterly** publication of the 4th Dental Battalion. **Article submission guidelines:** Send material at any time! Articles may be sent as e-mail, or as a wordprocessor file. Floppy disk by mail ok. NO FAXES of articles or graphics. Pictures sent in will be returned after use. Picture and wordprocessor files can be sent as file attachments. We regret that all material cannot be used due to size limitations. Material submitted and not used in this issue will be used in the next issue. Subscription is free. Editor: DT2(FMF) Stacia Rouse e-mail: Stacia_L_Rouse@marforres.usmc.mil

FROM: THE OPEN CLAW
CAPT MEDICK M. CAPIRANO
EXECUTIVE OFFICER



SOME SIGNIFICANT DATES IN MARINE CORPS HISTORY

1775 The Continental Congress authorized the formation of 2 Battalions of Marines, under Captain Samuel Nicholas, the 1st Commandant of the Marine Corps.

1798 Congress recreated the Marine Corps as a separate military service.

1805 Marines stormed the Barbary pirates' stronghold at Derna on the "Shores of Tripoli," raising the "Stars and Stripes" for the first time in the Eastern Hemisphere.

1847 During the Mexican War, the Marines occupied the "Halls of Montezuma" during the Battle of Chapultepec in Mexico City and were the first to enter the capitol.

1868 An emblem consisting of an eagle, a globe, and an anchor was adopted by the Marine Corps. Brigadier General Jacob Zeilin, 7th Commandant, modified the British (Royal) Marine emblem to depict the Marines as both American and maritime. The globe and anchor signify worldwide service and sea traditions. The spread eagle is a symbol of the nation itself.

1913 The Marine Corps established its aviation unit with Marine Major Alfred A.Cunningham as its first aviator.

1917 Marines landed as part of the American force in France. Marines, participating in eight distinct operations, distinguished themselves and were awarded a number of decorations, among them the French Fourragere, still worn by the members of the 5th and 6th Marines.

1933 The Marine Corps was reorganized into the Fleet Marine Force, formally establishing the "Command and administrative relations between the Fleet and the Marine Corps. The Marine Corps Equipment Board was established at Quantico, Virginia for testing and developing materials for landing operations and expeditionary services.

1965 Marines landed in South Vietnam, which committed the Marine Corps to the longest war in history.

1982 The Marines deployed to Lebanon as part of a multinational peacekeeping force in an effort to restore peace and order to this war-torn country. This action further displayed the Marine concept of a "Force in Readiness." On 23 October, 1983, a suicide truck bomb attack on the headquarters building killed 241 Americans and wounded 70 others. The last Marine unit withdrew in July in 1984.

Rear Admiral (Sel.) Maurice B. Hill. Jr.
Dental Corps
United States Naval Reserve

Congratulations to former Commanding Officer RADM (Sel.) Maurice B. Hill, Jr. On his most recent selection to Flag Rank. We are so very proud to have served you!

RADM (Sel.) Maurice B. Hill, a native of Toms River, New Jersey, received his BA in Biological Sciences from Rutgers University, located in New Brunswick, NJ., in June 1969. RADM (Sel.) Hill entered the Naval Reserve Dental 1925 Program as an Ensign in 1970 while a freshmen at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He attended Officer Indoctrination School (OIS), Naval Education and Training Center (NETC), Newport. RI., in June 1972. Upon graduation from UMDNJ in December 1972, RADM (Select) Hill was assigned to the Naval Dental Clinic, NETC, Newport, RI, as an Assistant Dental Officer. In May, 1974 he was transferred to the Branch Dental Clinic, Naval Air Station, Lakehurst, NJ.

After his release from active duty, RADM (Sel.) Hill affiliated with the Naval Reserve at Naval Air Reserve Unit, NAS, Lakehurst, NJ. He was assigned to NAS 1504 and later to NAS Bermuda 0193. In 1979 RADM (Sel.) Hill was assigned to Branch Dental Clinic 0193, NAS Willow Grove, PA. He served as Training Officer and Executive Officer and in 1988 was assigned as Commanding Officer, Branch Dental 0193 NAS, Willow Grove, PA. In January 1990, RADM (Sel.) Hill was selected as a Commanding Officer, National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) 104, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, PA. He was activated for Operation Desert Storm (ODS) in January 1991 and assigned to Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, PA where he was actively involved in the VA-DOD Hospital Contingency Plan. He was released from active duty in March 1991. RADM(Sel.) Hill was assigned as Executive Officer, 14th Dental Company, 4th Dental Battalion, 4th FSSG, FMF, FT. Dix, NJ in June 1992. From 01 October 1992 to 30 September 1994 he served as Commanding Officer, 14th Dental Company. In 1994 the Headquarters Detachment, 14th DENCO, 4th DENBN, 4th FSSG was selected as the FY-93 RADM Vaughn Naval Reserve Dental Unit of the Year. RADM(Sel.) Hill was assigned as Staff Dental Officer, NAVRESREDCOMREGFOUR, Ft. Dix, NJ from 01 October 1994 to 30 September 1995. He served as Commanding Officer, 4th Dental Battalion, 4th FSSG, FMF, Marietta, GA from 01 October 1995 until 30 September 1997. RADM (Sel.) Hill is currently assigned as Staff Dental Officer, NAVRESREDCOMREGSIXTEEN, Minneapolis, MN. He recently completed the Reserve Officer National Security Decision Making Course at the Naval War College, Newport, RI.

RADM (Sel.) Hill's military awards include: The Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (with Gold Star in lieu of 2nd award), Fleet Marine Force Ribbon, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, National Defense Medal (with bronze star), Arctic Service Ribbon, Naval Reserve Service Medal (with silver hourglass and mobilization "M"), Rifle Ribbon (sharpshooter), and Pistol Ribbon (Marksman).

RADM (Sel.) Hill is s fellow in the Academy of General Association, New Jersey Dental Society, Monmouth-Ocean Dental Society, Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, Lakewood Blackhawks Civic Organization, Brick Lions Club, Naval Institute, United States Navy Memorial Foundation, and the Naval Reserve Association. He is an active member of St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church, Toms River, NJ where he serves as a Eucharistic Minister and is a member if the interim parish council.

RADM (Sel.) Hill maintains a general dental practice in Brick, NJ. He resides in Toms River, NJ with his wife Roseann. They have three daughters: Shannon, Megan, and Ryan.

24TH DENTAL COMPANY UPDATE

By CAPT Steve M. Creal, DC, USNR, Company Commander

Greetings from the 24th Dental Company. Today, 30 August, 1998 the 24th has completed it's obligation for the 98 baseload plan. The Detachments of the 24th spearheaded Arctic Care, FIREX-98 (Operation Rolling Thunder in Fort Carson, CO), and AOT-98 (Amphibious Operations at Coronado and Camp Pendleton). Right in the middle of these exercises our Company gathered at Camp Lejeune for a four day IDTT.

Many thanks to each one of you. You have all shown great enthusiasm and devotion to accomplishment of the mission. This was my first field exercise and once again I was completely overwhelmed with the knowledge and hard work of each member of the "Dental Detachment". I am proud to be associated with the best "citizen soldiers" of our country. Now we are beginning to reload for the next set of exercises.

Let me share a lesson that I think is very important in delivering the best dental care in the field and military training/familiarization for our dental personnel. The problem came to light when the dental detachment was asked, then strongly encouraged, to provide messmen and personnel for the compound react force. There were five dental officers and seven dental technicians in the detachment and we were seeing patients from 0730 to 2230 by the second day.

It has been my experience from the leaders of any Marine Corps unit with whom I have been associated that the dental detachment do everything we can to increase the dental readiness of their units, and more specifically, the young enlisted Marines. So we take this opportunity to train ourselves to deliver the finest dentistry in the field and help a few Marines improve their dental readiness. The source of the problem is that the Marines (Camp Commandant) making the decisions about where to get the people to stand the duties lump us dental people in with the medical people. The medical leadership sometimes think that Dental is part of his assets and expects us to supply our "fair share" of people to stand these duties.

We need to educate the Marines and our medical brothers that we are actually providing a service and learning how to do it in the field and not simulating a tactical situation of treatment of simulated casualties. The education must begin at the Initial Planning Conference (IPC) by the Battalion I&I representative. If we are expected to provide messmen and security watchstanders and people for other camp duties then we must plan for it initially. The FIREX had four chairs and we kept all four chairs busy for at least 10 hours per day. That was the plan and it did not leave room for these other duties. If we would have had three chairs and the same number of personnel then we could have taken part in the camp duties and other training opportunities. When the OIC goes to the main and Final Planning Conferences (MPC or FPC's) he/she should continue the education and be able to tell the exercise leadership how much dentistry the Dental Element can be expected to provide and what other training opportunities his unit could support.

Our dentists and technicians skills are certainly under utilized standing mess or watch duty. Our goal is to learn how to deliver the finest dentistry and to live in the field under combat conditions. Setting up the ADAL's is not the show stopper, but failing to get the power to the systems and keeping them functioning can be. Learning how to move with the Marines, that is, repacking the ADAL's and setting them up again, is an important skill to acquire. All this must be done within the CSSE support. Learning how to requisition transportation, supplies, proper electrical power, and coordinate with the operations center to move a dentist and technicians to a new location is imperative to providing dental care in the field. All of this is much more important for us then being on the compound react team or providing messmen.

The FIREX is a great place to learn all of this and more. I encourage all of us to understand the organization within which we function, the mission of the Dental Element, and make sure that the Marines and Medical Planners know what we expect and what we can provide beginning at the Initial Planning Conference (IPC).

This is one of the many lessons learned during this exercise. I'm sure we will share more as we approach the exercises of 99.

4TH DENTAL COMPANY UPDATE

By Captain James Bird, DC, USNR, Company Commander

FY 98 has been a good year for the 4th Dental Company. We had very good attendance from our Company at the Admiral Vaughn Meeting and the AMSUS meeting. In April we had four day IDTT at Camp Pendleton; OIC, CDR Mary Ann Gonzalez, provided all hands the ADAL Repair Course by the ADEC Company. This was an excellent, hands on course that paid good dividends for the 4th Dental Company during CAX 7 and 8 where the ADALs had to be repaired on several occasions. 4th Dental Company provided Dental Officers and Dental Technicians for Operation ARCTIC CARE 98. Here our personnel provided comprehensive dental care to resident civilians in remote villages, and they had fun doing it. 4th Dental Company provided all dental personnel for the Dental Elements at CAX 7 and CAX 8 at 29 Palms. Under the able leadership of OICs CDR Dan Goldbold (CAX 7) and CAPT (Sel.) Paul Santoyo (CAX 8) we provided examinations and complete dental care for participating Marine Reservists under difficult desert conditions. The FSSG command certified the 4th Dental Company as COMBAT READY and expressed their gratitude for a job well done.

DT1 Teri Ford, HQ DET, marked two special events during her AT at CAX 8. She reenlisted on the night of the 4th of July by the rockets' red glare, and a week later she captured her promotion to DTC. Congratulations DTC (Sel.) Ford!

I congratulate all of the men and women of the 4th Dental Company for their superb performance of their professional duties this year, and I applaud their esprit de corps and attention to military detail.

J S BIRD

CAX-7

Back Row L to R: RADM Harrison, CDR (Sel.) Hibbs, DT1 Alexander, DT2 Williams, CDR Corwin, DTC Lujan, CDR Godbold, Commanding Officer, CAPT Biolo Front Row: DT2 Perez, DT1 Bonin

4TH DENTAL COMPANY SURVIVES THE DESERT CAX-7-98 AND CAX-8-98

The Fourth Dental Company, was motivated in supporting over 6,000 Marines and Sailors during CAX-7-98 and CAX-8-98 from 4 June to 12 July 98 at Camp Wilson, Marine Corps Ground Combat Center, 29 Palms, CA. The Dental Detachments overcame the power problems, temperatures of over 110 degrees and provided over 3,432 procedures and over $67,000 in dental treatment in a desert environment in a Field Dental Clinic utilizing four ADALs. In addition, to providing dental treatment, they attended training at the Fleet Hospital in airway management, anthrax vaccine, alternative medicine, IV, and prescription writing. Detachment training included infection control of a Field Dental Clinic. Marine Corps training included NBC, artillery, familiarization with UH-1 Helicopter and 240G machine gun and a ride on a CH-53E helicopter and LAV. The Dental Detachment was the only detachment to receive a grade of Combat Ready during a site visit by 4th FSSG. Commanding Officer, 4th Dental Battalion (CAPT Biolo) visited during CAX-7&8. Executive Officer, 4th Dental Battalion (CAPT Capirano) conducted a one week AT during CAX-8-98. CAX-7-98 was led by Dental Detachment OIC, CDR Dan Godbold and Chief Al Lujan. The following personnel attended CAX-7-98: CDR Tom Corwin, CDR Eric Hibbs, DT1 Tucker (I-I), DT1 Wayne Alexander, DT1 Rita Bonin, DT1 Stevens Williams, and DT2 Nancy Perez. CAX-8-98 was led by Dental Detachment OIC, CAPT (Sel.) Paul Santoyo and DTCS Mark Degraffinreaidt. The following personnel attended CAX-8-98: CAPT James Bird, CAPT Kerry Krause, CDR William Creed, DTC Farmer (I-I), DT1 Kenneth Russell, DTC (Sel.) Teri Ford, DT1 Jesus Gonzalez, DT1 James Greasley, DT3 Edgardo Siapno and DT3 Earnest Ramsey. The following personnel were awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal: DTC Lujan, DTC (Sel.) Ford, DT1 Bonin, DT1 Russell, DT1 Gonzalez, and DT3 Siapno. DTC (Sel.) Ford was informed that she was selected for advancement to Chief Petty Officer, and also reenlisted. DT1 Gonzalez was frocked to his present rank and awarded a Army Achievement Medal for services during Arctic-Care-97. DT1 Williams was frocked to his present rank. The mission was accomplished. **A "JOB WELL DONE".**

C
A
X

8

Back Row: L to R CDR Creed, DT3 Siapno, DT1 Greasley, DTCS Degraffinreidt (Top), DT1 Gonzalez, DT1 Russell, CDR Santoyo. Front Row: L to R: DT3 Ramsey, DTC (Sel.) Ford.

ARCTIC CARE 98

By Commander Floyd Campen, DC, USNR
Detachment OIC, DET 2, 24th Dental Company

This year Arctic Care proved to be a resounding success. With a team of 10 doctors, 19 enlisted, and 1 I&I staff member, ten villages in the Kuskokwim region were serviced. Using Bethel, Alaska as headquarters, dental specialties including periodontics, endodontics, and oral surgery were provided, while restorative and surgical procedures proved the norm in the villages using ADAL's.

Hooper Bay, Kipnuk, Mountain Village, Kasigluk, Toksoo Bay, Quinhagak, Aniak, Emmonak, Chevak and Akiachak received superlative care from Navy, Air Force, and Air National Guard Personnel. As in past years, Arctic Care provided the members of 4th Dental Battalion a unique opportunity to meet, and work with different members of all four dental companies, giving all involved a much closer connection with each other. This year, however, also allowed members of the dental battalion to interact with dental technicians and doctors of the Air Force and National Guard, further expanding our knowledge of other branches of the service and how they do business.

Temperatures varied from - 10 to 45 degrees F. and snow and sleet were the daily norm making air transportation of personnel and supplies often challenging. 4th Dental Battalion personnel working 10-12 hour days were credited with over 1,728 dental procedures with a dollar value in excess of $400,000. Faced with arduous conditions and challenges, technicians and doctors alike undertook tasks to successfully provide care to the Eskimos of the region. ADAL's once again proved a challenge to all hands driving home the issue of flexibility to get the job done.

Although all personnel returned from their villages tired , overworked, and ready to return to their quiet lives in the civilian sector, ALL participants took with them memories of special moments, and people they had care for with most stating "Hope I can return next year". Semper Fi to all members of Arctic Care 98, your dedication and devotion to duty and country is second to none.

KIPNUK

fell on the Dental Battalions OIC and Inspector Instructor.

Discussion: How best to select the Director of Dental Services for an exercise. Also, the 4th Dental Battalions selection process and how both relate.

SOLUTION: To determine who should lead what exercise (dental element) is determined by several considerations. One being the type of exercise and who is the overall lead in planning of the exercise. Two, having an exercise assigned to the 4th Dental Battalion doesn't automatically provide the authority of Dental Director to the OIC for the exercise. They are two different selections. Dental Director of Services for Humanitarian missions is selected by the Senior Officer in Charge of the exercise. This could be a Marine, Sailor, or other Joint Service Officer. It depends on the mission at hand. Usually, the senior officer on board in the specialty would be Director of Dental Services.

Being selected as the 4th Dental Battalion OIC for an exercise gives the responsibility to the Officer to follow all Battalion guidelines, policies and instructions to complete the mission. Often, the Dental OIC by default is the Director Of Dental Services. However, when the mission arises where Joint Services are involved the title would again be given to the Senior Individual which is following Military standards dealing with the Chain Of Command.

It is possible to have a junior in rank be the senior person in an exercise. It would depend on the leading unit and their command structure. If it becomes necessary to either remove or reassign another individual to that position, then the senior officer working the mission would determine the selection.

ITEM # 4 **PRE-LTI ADALS BEFORE EXERCISES:** It has been suggested in several after action reports that a PRE-LTI be performed on ADALS in order to have workable units when they arrive in the field. There was numerous problems with equipment, chairs and compressors were number one and two on the list. Storing additional items in the ADALS and changing the make up of supplies were other areas that suggestions were offered.

DISCUSSION: How to better prepare the equipment for field exercises.

SOLUTION: First, I would like to refer to the article in the June issue of the GATORADE, 10+19+1= $211,483.00 by LT Bill Hartmann. In the article I address several of the ADAL concerns. For a brief review I'll offer the following.

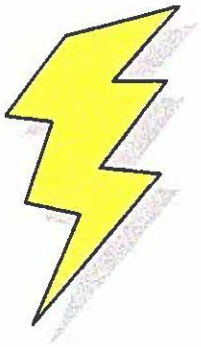
The ADAL is a wartime asset and with that in mind the only items allowed to stocked in the ADAL are those items listed on the ADAL. In FY98, I sent I&I's to Newport News and San Diego to do PRE-LTI's prior to exercises. One problem with the current ADAL is the equipment is no longer being made so replacement parts are more difficult to come by. Also, the total inventory presently on hand meets the Battalions mission, there are no extras. So if one comes back broken or missing an item there is a high probability that it will arrive at the next exercise with the same problem. The BEST course of action is to communicate with your I&I after they perform the LTI to find out what items are most likely NOT to be part of the ADALS when it arrives at your exercise.

We're also developing a preventive maintenance program for the ADALS at your detachments. Again, parts and supplies are difficult to come by but we are developing ways to better provide a service presently not available. We found operator error to be a partial reason for chair malfunction and we're working on reducing that concern. Also, we have stored 7 ADALS in Alaska to reduce the cost of shipment. The warehouse in Anchorage has Repair Technicians and we are working closely with them in developing a program that will ensure "equipment ready" ADALs for future Arctic Care missions.

ITEM # 5 **COMPRESSOR FOR ADAL:** Compressors are receiving their own category due to the number of problems experienced with them this past year. The electrical requirements to run the

FYI:

Electrical Requirements for 4-Chair Portable Field Dental Clinic



1 MEP-5 Generator
130 kW turtle (breaker box)
1 pig-tail (connects MEP-5 Generator to 30 kW turtle)
2- 15 kW turtles
2- 60 Amp cables (connects 15 kW turtles to 30 kW turtle)
18-20 Amp circuit connectors

1- BOO5 or BOO11 A/C unit 954K BTU Output)
1- cable connector (connect A/C directly to MEP-5 Generator)

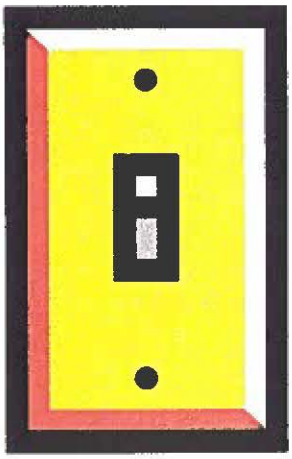
MEPDS gear to support lighting and electrical for four chair dental clinic

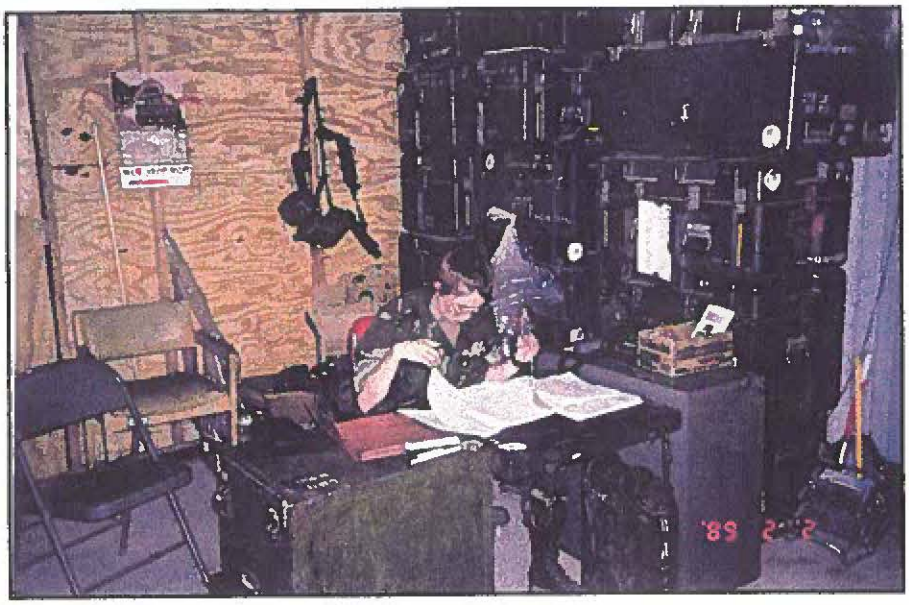
Recommended distribution of power:

1-20 amp circuit per compressor(usually 4)
1-20 amp circuit per chair(usually 4)
1-20 amp circuit per X-ray (1)

Remaining 9 circuits to be distributed to following items, each circuit Not to exceed 20 amps:

Autoclave	10.5-12amps/per (4 provided, usually run 2 at a time)
Ultrasonic Cleaner	1.2 amps/per
Sink	7.0 amps/per
Peri Pro Processor	5.0 amps
Refrigerator	3.0 amps
Fan (large upright)	3.3 amps





DENTAL BATTALION IN ACTION

LEFT: DT1 BONIN READS ADAL REQUIREMENTS. (CAX-7)

MIDDLE LEFT: CDR STOKES HAS HIS HANDS FULL. (LONESTAR-98)

MIDDLE RIGHT: DT1 PORTER PROVIDED HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS AT THE HEALTH FAIR. (LONESTAR-98)

BOTTOM LEFT: DT1 GONZALEZ AWARDED THE ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL FOR AC-98 (CAX-8)

BOTTOM RIGHT: DT1 OSORIO-MORT PAINTING FACES. (LONESTAR-98)